### EASTER DAY OBSERVANCE.

The Churches Were All Filled With Worshipers.

FLOWERS AND SPRING BONNETS.

Decorations and Sermons Appropriate to the Day-A Brilliant Ending to the Lenten

Season.

### Easter Sunday.

Easter Sunday was a bright and beautiful day, a fitting close to the Lenten season. It was observed in the churches with more than ordinary ceremony. At all places great crowds were in attendance; and at some, people were turned from the doors.

St. Philomena's.

St. Philomena's cathedral was thronged at each of the four masses, beginning at 5. a. m., and closing at 12:30 p. m. The decorations were simple, yet beautiful. The main altar was tastefully draped with wreaths of smilax. Potted plants and cut flowers were profusely distributed on spotless shelves, producing a delightful effect on a background of pure white marble. The side altars were also profusely decorated with flowers and wreaths.

The church was crowded to its utmost ca-The church was crowded to its utmost capacity when the first note of the Kyrie announced the beginning of pontifical high mass at 10:30. The latter was celebrated by Rt. Rev. Bishop O'Connor, assisted by Fathers Kelley, McCarthy, Dexacher, Coianeri and Carroll. A number of acolytes, attired in soutanes and surplices, were in charge of Mr. Rooney, who acted as master of ceremonies. The brilliant robes of the celebrants, the decorations and the loyful music were in according tions and the joyful music were in accord with the great christian event, typifying the risen Redeemer. An interesting explanatory address was delivered by Rev. Father Mc-Carthy, in which he scored the apostles of Paganism, who seek to rob mankind of the consolation of religion by repudiating divine revelation, uproofing faith, and substituting for the joys of eternity the shallow pretense that this life ends it all.

The choir rendered Mercadante's cele-brated "Mass in B flat," one of the most difficult and varied compositions in Catholic music. The orchestral score was written by Prof. Hofman, and the music was delight-fully rendered by his orchestra of ten pieces. The mass does not posses the majesty and volume of Mozart's Tweith, which was and volume of Mozart's Twelfth, which was sung last Easter, but affords excellent scope for combinations of voices. "Veni Creator," bass solo, by Jules Lumbard, with flute ac-companiment; "Qui Tollis," trio, by Messrs. Arnold, Kenzie and Lumbard, and "Et Unum Sanctum," trio, by Messrs. Kinzie, McCreary and Lumbard, deserve particular mention. Luzzi's "Ave Maria," soprano solo, was sung with charming sweetness and solo, was sung with charming sweetness and power by Miss Fannie Arnold. musical programme was excellently ren-dered, in both vocal and instrumental parts, adding much to the well deserved fame of St. Philomena's choir. Prof. Hofman wielded the baton, and Miss Maggie Swift presided at the organ.

St. Mary's Avenue Congregational. The railing in front of .the chancel and choir of the St. Mary's avenue Congregational church was converted into a beautiful hedge of white and green. No flowers were used save those of snowy whiteness. Lilies, roses and chrysanthemums constituted in the main the floral decorations. The various desks and the pulpit were draped in smilax while on the top of each stood vases containing large bouquets of white roses. The music for the occasion was very beautiful and appropriate, particularly the alto and tenor solos. The large room was comfortably filled with worshipers. Rev. Willard Scott, the pastor, preached an effective sermon on the resurrection of Christ. At the close of the service the church took another significent step forward by raising \$11,250, toward the payment of their new house of worship. The amount asked for by the pastor was \$10,000, which was overrun by the tor was \$10,000, which was overrun by the generous givers before the treasurer was able to bring the flood to a stop.

The church building is a large structure of two-story pattern, the audience room being in the second story, with commodious chapel rooms in the basement, which is nearly out of the ground. The audience room is the largest in the city, scating 700 in the pews, without the use of chairs. It is a churchly looking room, with a chancel of ancient ecclesiastical pattern, which gives the whole dignified and and worshipful character. The cost of the whole, as stated by Mr. Fred W. Gray, the trustee, was \$23,000, to which must be added \$3,000 for furniture put in thus far. Of this the present needs were \$10,000, and a call was made for that amount,

which was quickly pledged. The largest givers were: Mr. W. J. Connell, \$1,200; Mr. F. W. Gray, \$1,100; Mr. Samuel Burns, \$800; Rev. Willard Scott, \$500; Mr. James Forsyth, \$500; Mr. J. W. Griffith, \$500; Mr. R. E. Gaylord, Mr. J. W. Grimth, \$500; Mr. R. E. Gaylord, \$500; Mr. T. H. Taylor, \$500; Mr. J. T. Bell, \$400; Mr. William Lister, \$250; Mr. A. S. Stiger, \$250; Mr. F. W. Taylor, \$250; Mr. D. V. Sholes, \$200; Mr. James Viles, jr., \$200; Dr. A. S. Billings, \$150; Mr. E. A. Mills, \$150; Mr. G. W. Tillson, \$150; Mr. W. A. Higgins, \$150

In addition, there were twenty pledges of \$100 each, and many smaller sums. This church is not yet quite six years old, and was begun with its present pastor. It has received nearly four hundred members, and includes some of the best-known people of the

Christian Church.

The Resurrection was the theme of Rev. J. B. Johnson, at the Walnut Hill Christian church, yesterday morning. The speaker said: The steamer Danmark, with near a thousand souls on board, recently sailed from Norway bound for the American shore. That great steamer has since been seen, her fires extinguished, her mighty engines powchiess, apparently on the point of plunging to the bottom of the ocean. There were no signs of life on that vessel so recently teeming with human beings. But where now are the many hundreds of souls! Are they at the bottom of the sea, are they drifting in open boats, at the mercy of wind and wave! Have they been carried by some passing vessel to a distant island of the sea! Who can tell? How many weary, anxious and sorrowing hearts would be glad to know. Whatever be their fate, it is true of us, that whatever be their fate, it is true of us, that every year millions of our race embark on the unknown sea, voyagers to "the undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns." And all our hope of ever meeting the departed, hinges on the resurrection of Jesus. "If Christ be not raised our faith is vain."

If there be a God, He'holds the power of life and death in his hand. If there be a

if e and death in His hand. If there be a happy land to meet the aspirations and yearnings of the human spirit, we can readily believe a good God would reveal the fact to anxious souls had confirm it by ample proof. Has God done this!

Nearly two thousand years ago a babe was born in a stable at Bethlehem. In time the babe grew into manhood, was arrested as a riminal and crucified between two theyes.

The mangled body was buried in a rock-hewn tomb. Now behold a miracle! To-day hundreds of millions of people, in Europe, in Asia, in Africa, in America, in the isles of the sea, are thinking of that sepulcher! Be-fore His death this man Jesus said: "A fore His death this man Jesus said: "A wicked and adulterous generation seeks a sign but no sign shall be given it but the sign of Jonas. As Jonas was three days in the whale's belly the Son of Man shall be three days in the heart of the earth." Jesus staked all on that wonderful sign, and if he arose not on the third day our hopes of heaven and immortality are dashed to the earth forever.

heaven and immortality are dashed to the earth forever.

That the body of Jesus was buried, that a great stone was place at the mouth of the sepulcher, that a company of soldiers were placed about the tomb to guard the body, nobody has ever denied. That the body was missing on the third day nobody has ever denied. The women visited the opened and empty sepulcher. The apostles all saw Jesus after his resurrection. Doubting Thomas him self was convinced. More than five hundred disciples at once saw their Lord. All these testified to his resurrection and that, too, in the face of bitter denunciation and persecu-

tion, and many scaled their testimony with their blood. To doubt their testimony we must either suppose them to have been miraculously smitten with bindness or insanity.

There could be no stronger proof of the resurrection than this. Shortly after His death in the very city in which he had been condemned, crucified and buried and the body made secure by a guard of soldiers, the emboldened disciples openly proclaimed the resurrection of Jesus and supported their claim by such proof that thousands of people in a single day accepted their testimony in the face of threats, imprisonment and death. And from that day to this the story of the open sepulcher and the risen Lord has gone on conquering and to conquer until every great nation is illuminated by the sunlight of heaven that burst through the open grave of heaven that burst through the open grave of Jesus, and to-day every mighty potentate bows the knee to the babe of Bethlehem.

Trinity Cathedral. Trinity cathedral was packed to its doors at the 11 o'clock service and many people were obliged to turn away and seek other places in which to worship.

The atmosphere of the church was heavy with the perfume exhaled from the bank of flowers. The chancel and altar were one mass of blossoms of varied bues. The litany desk, the lectran, the baptismal font, the altar and all the reading desk were beautifully decorated with flowers and smilax.

On either side of the litany desk, stately lilies bloomed and sweet heliotrone sent forth its delicate fragrance. Roses beautified the recesses of the chancel windows, and potted plants made a veritable garden of flowers of the church.

When the white-robed choir and the surpliced priests came out from the vestry and took their positions the scene was one of im-

posing grandeur.
The service was high celebration of the The service was high celebration of the Holy Eucharist, conducted by the Very "ev. C. H. Gardner, assisted by Rev. T. C. Brady. The music was simply grand, and especially is this true of the Te Deum, sung by the entire choir of nearly fifty voices. Mrs. Cotton sang for the effectory the anthem, "I Know that My Redeemer Liveth," very beautifully. The sermon by the dean was a glad, triumphant laudation of the risen Lord.

The other services at the cathedral during the day were early celebration at 8:45 a. m., children's service at 2:30 n. m. and festival. children's service at 2:30 p. m. and festival service in the evening.

First Presbyterian.

While it is not the custom of this church to make an elaborate or particularly special effort on Easter, the services there were both appropriate and interesting. The only noticeable display as a distinguishing feature of the occasion consisted of an exquisitely arranged bank of flowers, calla lilies and potted plants about the pulpit and choir box, while the chandeliers and rallings supported quantities of smilax wound in fantastic shapes around them. The congregation filled every seat and much standing room, new hats and bonnets adorned the feminine heads, and altogether, the scene presented at 11 o'clock was sufficiently impressive to remind one of the historical event so closely allied to the worship of all religious sects and denominations. The regular choir rendered an excellent pro-gramme of music, and while the collection was being taken Miss Bertha Balys sang, as a solo, "The Resurrection," by Holden, in splendid style. Her voice was clear, strong,

musical and sympathetic.

Rev. W. J. Harsha presided. To him the day was doubly important. In addition to its religious specialties, was coupled the twelfth anniversary of his pastorate at that church. His sermon, therefore, was devoted principally to a review of the work accom-plished since his installment as the pastor. When he took hold the congregation was not only small and poor, but divided by dis-sensions. But he kept his counsel, soon reunited the contending factions, labored for new converts and in a short time had increased the attendance until the capacity of the church was wholly insufficient to meet the requirements. As a result of Mr. Harsha's twelve years, work eleven new churches and six mission schools have been established in this city and South Omaha; his congregation has grown until the roll of membership now numbers 1,041, while the total list of communicants in the prescribed territory foots up 14,081. In that period, also, the money receipts as contribu-tions to the board for regular work and miscellaneous collections amounts to the mag-nificent sum of \$97,092. As a business and financial review the sermon was rather re-At the evening service Mr. Harsha had for the subject of his discourse, "Was Jesus of Nazareth Really Raised From the Dead?"

Rountze Memorial.

The congregation of the Kountze Memorial church was well represented at the morning services. At an early hour people began to arrive, and when the hour of service was reached, the large gathering was interspersed with Easter bonnets and gay apparel. The pulpit was a parterre of ferns and flowers. Resting in the back ground, on canvas-colored cioth, was a design representing the holy sepulchre, where the body of Christ was laid. At the entrance to the of Christ was laid. At the entrance to the sepulchre was a large stone, representing the slab which lay at the entrance after the Savior had risen from the dead. The immediate surrounding was covered with flowers and evergreen, wrought into beauti-ful designs. Extending across the pulpit was a semi-circle bedecked with evergreen shrubs, and bearing the motto, "He is Not Here: He Has Risen."

The service was opened with a hymn sung by a quartette led by Mrs. Mar-tin Cahn. Rev. J. S. Detweller then assumed his familiar place in the pulpit and preached a sermon on the subject, "Christ is Risen." In dealing with his subject, the orator dwelt to a considerable degree on the life of the Savior of mankind and the persecutions which he endured while upon earth.
The service throughout was interesting

and was preached according to the occasion.

In the evening Rev. Mr. Detweiler preached on the subject, "Tomb in the Garden." The attendance taxed the capacity of this house of worship.

Central United Pr esbyterian. Easter is not recognized in the United Presbyterian creed nor does the day occupy a place in its calendar. Nevertheless, Dr. Williamson preached a sermon bearing on the resurrection. He shose for his topic the query of that afflicted man of Uz-the philosophical Job-"if a man die, shall be live again?" and answered the question with this verse from H. Corinthians, xv, 20: "But now is Christ risen from the dead and be-come the first-fruits of them that slept." In opening his discourse, the doctor re-erred to the fact that there was no scriptural authority for either Christmas or Easter, but custom had defined these days and it was well to discuss the birth, death

and resurrection of Christ and their bearing

on christianity. He also called attention to the inconsistency of the date of Easter. Christmas is always on the one date while Easter may be almost any date in March or

April.

The choir rendered in a very acceptable manner the anthem "Make His Praise Glorious." The music is always good in this church, being largely furnished by the Arions. The congregational singing is as fine as any in the city.

The ordinance of infant baptism was administered during the service.

First Methodist Episcopal. At the First M. E. church the Easter Sunday celebration, with its grand and gladsome music and profuse display of rare and beautiful flowers, filling chancel, altar and auditorium with the sweetness of their delicious perfumes, was a conspicuous event. In front of the altar was a bank of enunciation lilies, with graceful, bending curves, and artistic groups of roses everywhere interspersed, making an effect both pleasing and pictursque. Behind the altar the arched panel was a mas of smilax, their long, fibrils droop-ing until they touched the floor, and in the center of this solid green were the words, in snowy letters, "Christ is Risen." All about was an environment of flowers, most promi was an environment of flowers, most prom-nent among which were callas, azaleas, prim-roses, rush leaved daffodils, filacs, trailing asparagus and maiden's hair. Rev. House's sermon was a beautiful and scholarly affair, and listened to with rapt attention by an un-

usually large congregation.

The choir consists of Mrs. Dr. Baldridge, soprano; Miss Frances Roeder, contraito; Mr. R. W. Breckenridge, tener; Prof. Lee G. Kratz, bass and director; Mrs. F. M. Hills, organist. Organ Prelude..... 

Psalm......Mendelssohn Prayer.
Hymn 231
Offertory.
Solo, tenor, "Resurrection". Holden Sermon.... Hymn 230..... Benediction...
Organ Postlude..... Doxology,.... Hymn 20.... Scripture Lesson..... 

Prayer. Solo, contralto, with violin obligato, "Christ the Lord is Risen To-day". Baetens Violin obligate played by Prof. Baetens.

Hymn 248.....

Benediction.....

"On Thee Each Living Soul

Offertory...

St. Barnabas.

White lilies and heliotrope bedecked the the altar at St. Barnabas. The services at the little church were more than usually impressive. High mass was celebrated at 11 o'clock, with all the beautiful ceremonies and pomp of the church's liturgy. The music was splendidly rendered by the robed choir of about twenty voices. The anthems rang with triumph, and the whole service was permeated with a feeling of gladness. was permeated with a feeling of gladness. The communion was largely attended. Rev. John Williams officiated, and preached the sermon. It was brief, but eloquent. "We are not here to-day," said he, "alone to consider the resurrection of a magnificent Jew, as an infidel, upstart editor has said, but we come to worship the eternal God, without whom there is no peace, no hope. If, as this man has implied, christianity is left to weak women and children, then let us all be women and children."

All Saints. This church, at Twenty-sixth and Howard streets, was crowded, but there was no great display of Easter bonnets. The interior of the edifice was gorgeously decorated with fragrant flowers. The decorations consisted

and roses. In front of the altar there were 100 plants and paims. The cross on the altar was decorated with pink hyacinths; the arch before the rood screen was covered with lilies and white roses brought from California for the service; the processional cross was surrounded with lilies tied with a white satin knot; the hymn table contained Marechal Neil roses. Around the altar were four large vases of lines. In the pulpit were living flowers and palms; the columnion table was festooned with smilax. The litany desk was covered with hyacinths and white and pink roses, and the baptismal font, in the rear of the aisle near the entrance, was covered with white and crims on tulips. In its entirety the floral decoration was very beautiful.

The choir consisted of forty-two voices, forty male and two contrattos.

The Rev. Louis Zahner, rector of the church, preached an appropriate sermon on the resurrection.

Newman M. E. Church.

The decorations in the Newman M. E. church, on St. Mary's avenue, were simple. From the corners of the church to the pulpit were hung festoons of smilax, fastened with white lilies. In front of the rostrum were fucusias, lilies and heliotrope, while a bouquet of pright colored tulips graced the sacred

The pastor, Rev. J. E. Ensign, took for his text, Job xiv:14, "If a man die shall he live again." The speaker powerfully portraved 1900 years ago and the glorious resurrection on Easter morn. A glorious awakening, he stated, also awaited all those who die in the

The popular blood purifier, Hood's Sarsaparilla, is having a tremendous sale this season. Nearly everybody takes it. Try it yourself.

The Russian Jews' Easter. There was trouble again yesterday, in the lewish synagogue on the corner of Twelfth and Jackson, over the crucifixion of Christ. The remarks of the rabbi proved too lineral for the majority of the hearers who rose almost en masse and objected to such doc A few sided with the rabbi and the discussion became so loud and demonstra-tive that Officer Rowden had to be called in to quell the incipient riot. No arrests were





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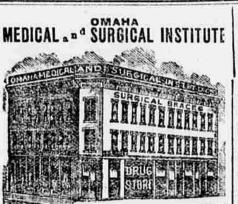


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How is it Archibald? I pay my tailor double the price you paid NICOLL for that swell suit? Why

Don't you know, Chawles-

NICOLL'S do a big businesstailors lot of clothes-been at it a long time-

Knows all about it, don't you,

You promise your tailor \$60-pay him \$30-stand him off for the baland-big loss you know-somebody has to pay it.

NICOLL don't do anything of that sort—he's spot cash—turns his goods and money briskly, NICOLLS a broad guage tailor where you get 100 cents for your dollar-and the prettiest goods right from the cast.

Trousers to order, \$ 5 to \$10 to

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